

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03

NEA-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 USIA-15

TRSE-00 SAJ-01 ACDA-19 CU-04 OMB-01 OIC-04 AEC-11

DRC-01 /135 W

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P R 141600Z MAR 74

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4621

INFO ALL CSCE CAPITALS 106

AMEMBASSY OSLO

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

USLOSACLANT

USDOCOSOUTH

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 1684

VIENNA ALSO FOR USDEL MBFR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: CSCE: SUB-COMMITTEE ON MILITARY SECURITY (CBM'S);
QUESTION OF AMPHIBIOUS & AIRBORNE FORCES

REF: STATE 041005

1. NEUTRAL DRAFT CBM RESOLUTION (TEXT GENEVA 1128)
STATES THAT THE CONDITIONS SET FORTH FOR PRIOR NOTIFI-
CATION SHOULD ALSO APPLY TO MANEUVERS AND MOVEMENTS
WITH ONE AIRBORNE DIVISION OR WITH AMPHIBIOUS FORCES
OF ONE BRIGADE OR MORE. AT MARCH 13 NATO CAUCUS, UK
AND SEVERAL OTHER ALLIED REPS INDICATED INTEREST IN
ADDING A REFERENCE TO AIRBORNE AND AMPHIBIOUS TROOPS
TO THE PROVISION COVERING MANEUVERS IN THE UK DRAFT IN
ORDER TO HELP SATISFY THE NEUTRALS. FORMULATION
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FAVORED BY SEVERAL WOULD MODIFY FIRST PART OF SECTION

I-C OF THE UK TEXT (GENEVA 634) SO AS TO READ:

"NOTIFICATION WILL BE GIVEN OF ANY MAJOR MILITARY MANEUVER COMPRISING ACTIVITY IN EUROPE, BY THE EQUIVALENT OF A DIVISION OR MORE OF LAND, AMPHIBIOUS OR AIRBORNE TROOPS TOGETHER WITH ANY AIR OR NAVAL COMPONENTS IN WHICH ANY PARTICIPATING STATE IS INVOLVED..." (REFERENCE TO MOVEMENTS IN ORIGINAL TEXT IS OMITTED BECAUSE SUB-COMMITTEE IS PRESENTLY DRAFTING ON SUBJECT OF MANEUVERS ONLY.)

2. IT APPEARS THAT MANY NATO REPS WOULD BE PREPARED TO ACCEPT THIS ADDITIONAL REFERENCE TO AMPHIBIOUS AND AIRBORNE TROOPS AND THEY HAVE PRESSED US FOR US POSITION. ALLIES RECOGNIZE THAT NEUTRALS, LIKE US, COULD NOT ACCEPT THE PHRASE "TOGETHER WITH ANY AIR OR NAVAL COMPONENTS." THEY ALSO RECOGNIZE THAT NEUTRALS AND SOVIETS WOULD DISAGREE WITH SETTING THE THRESHOLD FOR AMPHIBIOUS AND AIRBORNE TROOPS AT ONE DIVISION (SHICH IS TOO HIGH FOR THE NEUTRALS IN THE CASE OF AMPHIBIOUS TROOPS AND NO DOUBT TOO LOW FOR THE SOVIETS IN BOTH CASES). NONETHELESS, ALLIES FEEL THAT THEY, THE NEUTRALS AND THE SOVIETS MIGHT AT LEAST BE ABLE TO AGREE AT THIS STAGE THAT THE MEASURE BEING DRAFTED MAKE SOME SEPARATE MENTION OF AIRBORNE AND AMPHIBIOUS FORCES. WE HAVE TOLD ALLIES THAT WE WOULD ASK FOR INSTRUCTIONS ON THIS ISSUE AND THAT IF IT AROSE AT THE SUB-COMMITTEE IN THE MEANWHILE WE WOULD HAVE TO RESERVE OUR POSITION AND ASK THAT A REFERENCE TO AIRBORNE AND AMPHIBIOUS TROOPS IN ANY PROVISIONALLY AGREED TEXT BE PUT IN BRACKETS. DEPT'S GUIDANCE IS REQUESTED ASAP.DALE

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